



## Rita Marie Godin

February 8, 1952 - November 10, 2021

Rita Marie Godin, 69, of Charlotte, a woman of devout Faith and enduring love for her family, died on Wednesday, November 10, 2021. Rita was born February 8, 1952, in Granite City, IL, the daughter of William Edward and Norma Gail (Reis) Breidenbach. She earned a bachelor degree in speech pathology and started her Masters degree at the University of Northern Colorado, where she met the love of her life, Donald Edward Godin. The two married on June 16, 1973, in Colorado, and started their family. Throughout the early years of their family life, they moved to several different states, before settling in Charlotte, MI in 1987. Shortly after, in 1993, Rita started substitute teaching throughout the area. Education and learning remained a life-time passion for Rita. Her interest in the connection between music and brain health led her to attend many conferences on brain-based learning. She was always interested in understanding how the human mind learned, and in seeking how sound and natural healing works to expand brain power, especially in children. She was a devoted and busy mother of 7, and served at both the local and state levels of the Parent Advisory Committee, an organization dedicated to children with special needs. Rita loved to dance. She was a member of the County Cloggers and enjoyed square dancing in her youth, and always pestering Don to get on the dance floor. She was also an avid sewer, creating many special treasures for her family and friends. Rita loved the local Charlotte Library, and could often be found there. She contributed much to her St. Mary Parish family, including co-founding the

Youth Group, and singing in the choir. Many will remember her calming presence as a Lector at St. Mary Catholic Church in Charlotte, and all of her service to others in the church and beyond.

Rita is survived by her husband of 48 years, Donald Godin; their 7 children, Michelle (Karl) Hart, Paul (Stacie) Godin, David (Alison) Godin, Stephen Godin, Elisabeth (Andrew) Struve, Phillip Godin, and Jeannette (Robert) Holloway; 13 grandchildren; 3 step-grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; sisters, Mary Teresa (Don) Hanes and Catherine (Charles) Bachwartz; brothers, Edward (Sylvia) Breidenbach and James (Carmen) Breidenbach; and her nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents and her infant daughter, Monica.

Friends and family are encouraged to support Rita's family by attending services or sharing memories on her tribute page at [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com). A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, November 29, 2021 at St. Mary Catholic Church with Rev. Fr. Dwight Ezop officiating. Visitation will be from 2:00 – 4:00 and 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. with a Rosary at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 28, 2021 at Pray Funeral Home. The funeral will be webcast so you may watch it from any computer, smartphone, or mobile device that has internet access. Go to [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com), click on Rita's tribute, then click on Photos and Videos from your computer (or Media from your smart phone). Interment will take place in Maple Hill Cemetery in Charlotte. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Charlotte Library or Area 8 Special Olympics. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home.

# Cemetery Details

## Maple Hill Cemetery

801 Tully Brown Rd.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 28. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

## Visitation

NOV 28. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

## Rosary

NOV 28. 7:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

## Funeral Mass

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NOV **29**. 11:00 AM.

Saint Mary Catholic Church

# Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Rita Marie Godin



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - November 29, 2021 at 10:43 AM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Rita Marie Godin



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - November 28, 2021 at 10:44 AM



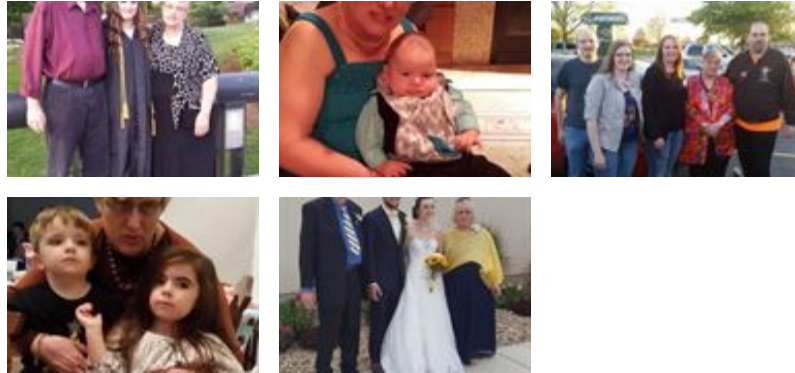
“ 3 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - November 28, 2021 at 10:40 AM



“ 49 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - November 27, 2021 at 05:42 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rita Marie Godin.



November 23, 2021 at 07:39 PM



“ Rita was one of my favorite substitute teachers when I went to school in Eaton Rapids. We also knew each other from St. Peters Catholic Church in Eaton Rapids, where we both attended the former Tuesday nights' praise and worship services many years ago. I was also lucky to work with her at ERPS during my time as a substitute para, we used to chat in the teacher's lounge during our lunch periods. We also kept in contact on facebook, it was always great to chat with her on there as well. She was a great lady and I will miss her. - Jeremy Babcock



Jeremy Babcock - November 19, 2021 at 10:10 PM

BR

“ I have known Rita for many years. I did her nails. I always looked forward to her coming for her appointments. She was one of the most selfless women I've ever met. May she rest in peace. Sending prayers, and condolences to her family. I will miss her.

Brenda Robbins - November 18, 2021 at 07:41 PM

JJ

“ My deepest condolences to Rita's family. I knew Rita from the time that I worked as the secretary at Potterville Elementary School and she substitute taught. I remember Rita as such a pleasant person, dedicated to the job that was in front of her.

Joni Jeffery - November 17, 2021 at 02:48 PM

KR

“ Over the years Rita picked up my substitute teacher jobs many times. It is hard to find a substitute who is brave enough to cover elementary music classes! I appreciate her passion for music and teaching and for all the years that she worked subbing for us in the Eaton Rapids Public Schools. We will miss her presence in our schools.

Karen Rose - November 15, 2021 at 09:47 PM

CW

“ Chad & Carol Walker lit a candle in memory of Rita Marie Godin



Chad & Carol Walker - November 15, 2021 at 11:10 AM

LH

“ Rita and I served together on the Parent Advisory Committee. She became a great friend and mentor. My children all enjoyed when Rita was their substitute and they also got to know her outside of school at 4-H or stopping by our house with sewing questions. I have happy memories of helping Rita on sewing projects or sewing for her and her family. Most recently baptismal gowns for the twins. She also stopped by my office at school when she subbed and we would catch up on what was going on in our lives and how our families were doing. I will miss her greatly. Liz Hubert

Liz Hubert - November 15, 2021 at 08:09 AM

KH

“ Rita was the earliest of my friends, as our parents were friends from college. When the families socialized, we children played a game of our own creation, the Zizzy Club. Later on, thanks to the Internet, we were able to reconnect as adults. Fond memories of a beautiful person.

Kathryn Holm - November 13, 2021 at 05:18 PM

BO

“ Ben and Kara O'Hearn purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rita Marie Godin.



Ben and Kara O'Hearn - November 13, 2021 at 02:20 PM

DH

“ I can't remember how many years ago I met Rita at St. Mary's, I don't remember a time that Rita wasn't active with something at church. She was one in a million.

*Diane Hudson*

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**Diane Hudson** - November 13, 2021 at 01:13 PM

LP

*Rita was such a hard worker and so dedicated to her family. She will be greatly missed by the praise band. A beautiful voice.*

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**Lori Poyer** - November 13, 2021 at 08:41 PM

JW

“ *Rita was a faithful, humble servant of God. Her example of God, family and service is inspiring to us and all. May she rest in peace and may her family rest in faith. Sympathies, Arthur and Joanne Williams, Olivet*

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**joanne williams** - November 13, 2021 at 12:21 PM

JM

“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Rita's passing. She covered my classes many, many times through the years and was a substitute who I could count on take care of my students in my absence. Rita was reliable, friendly and kind. I last spoke with her Tuesday at lunch where she was subbing. She will be missed at the lunch table. Please know that her service to the education community in Eaton County made a difference.*

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**Jim Manning** - November 13, 2021 at 12:07 PM

TH

“ I was saddened to learn of Rita’s passing. She and I worked closely together in Youth Ministry serving St Mary Catholic Church for many years. Rita was also a dedicated Catechist that I could count on to show up every Sunday to share her faith with her students. I was so touched when she came to my son’s visitation and shed tears of grief. As a mother of a large family herself she truly identified with the pain in my heart at the loss of one’s child. She now rests in the arms of our Lord and Savior. Well done good and faithful servant.

*Teresa Hurd*

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**Teresa Hurd** - November 13, 2021 at 09:00 AM